tension of rliefs' and concessions generally and those specially meant for PSUs be adopted as a matter of right. These alongwith other elements of the rehabilitation package, have to be followed/accepted in consensus among all the bank/financing institutions and other agencies participating in the rehabilitation package. In the case of sick industrial companies including PSUs such packaging would need to be sanctioned by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR).

गरीबी रेखा से नीचे रहने वाले लोगों का आर्थिक स्तर

4389. **श्री जगन्नाथ सिंह** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 31 मार्च, 1997 की स्थिति के अनुसार देश की कुल आबादी में से कितने प्रतिशत लोग गरीबी रेखा से नीचे की जिन्दगी जीने के लिए मजबूर हैं ; और

(ख) ऐसे व्यक्तियों का आर्थिक स्तर ऊंचा उठाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा कौन-कौन से कार्यक्रम तैयार किए गए हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम. वी. चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति) : गरीबी के प्रभाव का राष्ट्रीय नमूना सर्वेक्षण संस्थान (एन एस एस ओ) द्वारा पूरा किए गए घरेलू खपत व्यय के पंचवर्षीय सर्वेक्षण के आधार पर अनुमान लगाया गया है । गरीबी उन्मूलन संबंधी नवीनतम सरकारी अनुमान वर्ष 1987-88 के लिए उपलब्ध हैं। अनुमान के अनुसार, वर्ष 1987-88 में जनसंख्या का 29.9 प्रतिशत गरीबी रेखा से नीचे था । वर्ष 1993-94 के दौरान हुए पंचवर्षीय सर्वेक्षण का परिणाम अभी तक उपलब्ध नहीं हुआ है ।

(ख) गरीबों के जीवन स्तर और आर्थिक स्तर में सुधार करने के लिए बड़ी संख्या में विशेष रोजगार और गरीबी उन्मूलनज कार्यक्रमों को कार्यान्वित किया जा रहा है । इनमें समेकित ग्रामीण विकास (आई आर डी पी), जवाहर रोजगार योजना (जे आर वाई), नेहरू रोजगार योजना (एन आर वाई), रोजगार आश्वासन स्कीम (ई ए एस) और प्रधानमंत्री की रोजगार योजना (पी एम आर वाई) शामिल हैं । इन कार्यक्रमों के लिए आवंटन पिछले तीन केन्द्रीय बजटों के दौरान पूरी तरह से बढ़ा दिया गया है ।

Loans released to Agriculture Sentor

4390. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the percentage of the agriculture sector to the national income during 1993-94 and 1994-95; and

(b) what is the percentage of the loan amount released to the agriculture sector from the national income during 1993-94 and 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and, to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

Loan extended by A.D.B.

4391. SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has recently extended a loan of $ 245 million (Rs. 772 crores) for improvement of five national highways in India as per the agreemet signed by Government with A.D.B.; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) An agreement for National Highway Project (Loan No. 1274—IND) for US $ 245 million was signed on 22.03.1995 with A.D.B.

The project consists of the improvement of five national highway:

Barwa Adda—Barakar (43 km.) in Bihar;

Raniganj—Panagrah (42 km.) in West Bengal;

Gurgaon—Kotputli (129 km.) in Haryana and Rajasthan;

Nandigama—Vijayawada (48 km.) in Andhra Pradesh; and

Vijayawada—Eluru (71 km.) in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The formalities for effectiveness of the loan have been completed and as such the loan is likely to be declared effective shortly by the A.D.B.

C and AG's report on non-receipt of action taken notes

4392. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in Para 1.6 of his Report No. 5 of 1995 has commented that there is Non-Receipt of Action Taken Notes from the Government on Audit Paragraph;

(b) what are the reasons for such apathy of Government in this regard; and

(c) what action has been taken against the errant Officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The work relating to the Receipt Audit objections contained in the draft paras included in the C&AG Reports are dealt with utmost care and priority is given to this work. The information required for preparing and furnishing Action Taken Notes had to be collected from various Commissioners of Income-tax charges which are spread all over the country and thus resulted in some delays. It is submitted that as against 143 Action Taken Notes shown as pending in C&AG Report No. 5 of 1995, it has been ascertained that the actual pendency is only 58. Every effort is being made to furnish Action Taken Notes in respect of the pending cases. Since the Action Taken Notes are being finalised and furnished, no action appears to be necessary against any Officer of the Department.

Assistance by Financial and investment institutions

4393. SHRI T. VENKATARAM REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: The amount of assistance sanctioned and released by the Financial and Investment Institutions for the revival of public sector undertaking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

Letter from IMF on economic liberalisation

4394. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director of the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund has written a letter to Government urging that lessons be drawn from the debacle that has overtaken Mexico and that the policy of economic liberalisation currently pursued be either modified or abandoned;

(b) whether the text of the letter would be laid on the Table of the House; and

(c) what is Government's reaction to the contents of the letter?